

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 178433 TOSEC 080135

64

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 /021 R

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 178433 TOSEC 080135

FOL REPEAT OF STATE 178433 TO LAGOS IBADAN KADUNA INFO LONDON
PARIS YAOUNDE NDJAMENA NIAMEY COTONOU BONN JUL 29

QTE:C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 178433

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, NI

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF NEW NIGERIAN REGIME

1. THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD SERVE AS EMBASSY'S
GUIDANCE REGARDING RECOGNITION OF NEW REGIME:

2. OUR RESPONSE TO EVENTS IN NIGERIA WILL BE SIMILAR TO
OUR REACTION TO OTHER ABRUPT GOVERNMENTAL CHANGES IN
AFRICA IN RECENT YEARS. THE ISSUE OF RECOGNITION IS DE-
EMPHASIZED. THE EMBASSY IS TO CONTINUE WORKING LEVEL
CONTACTS AND TO MONITOR THE LOCAL SITUATION CLOSELY TO
DETERMINE WHETHER THE NEW REGIME HAS EFFECTIVE CONTROL
OVER THE COUNTRY. THE SIGNING OF NEW AGREEMENTS AND THE
TAKING OF OTHER SIGNIFICANT BILATERAL ACTIONS NORMALLY
ARE TO BE AVOIDED DURING THIS PERIOD. ULTIMATELY, AFTER A
THOROUGH REVIEW OF THE SITUATION BY THE DEPARTMENT,
EMBASSY MAY BE AUTHORIZED TO RESUME FULL SCALE DIPLOMATIC
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CONTACTS AND RELATIONS WITHOUT ANY SPECIFIC EVENT CON-

STITUTING THE ACT OF RECOGNITION.

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